

2020 Ann & Charles Eisemann International Young Artists Competition for Strings Presented by the Richardson Symphony Orchestra

The purpose of the competition is to recognize talented young musicians and to give these artists the opportunity to perform with the Richardson Symphony Orchestra. The competition will be held on Saturday, January 11, 2020 at the University of Texas at Dallas.

Awards

The Grand Prize Winner will receive a cash award of \$5,000 and will perform with the Richardson Symphony Orchestra on March 7, 2020. Hotel accommodations will be provided. The second prize winner will receive a cash award of \$2,000. The third prize winner will receive a cash award of \$1,000.

Eligibility

This competition is open to serious strings musicians, ages 14 through 27 as of January 11, 2020. No former first-place winner may enter the competition again.

By entering the competition, the contestant guarantees that, if declared the first place winner, he or she will be available for the required rehearsals on Friday, March 6, 2020 and Saturday, March 7, 2020 and for the performance on Saturday, March 7, 2020.

Standards and Adjudication

All competitors will be judged by the highest artistic standards of performance in the areas of technical proficiency, musicianship, repertoire and stage presence. Professionally-qualified musicians will screen all preliminary audition performances. The remainder of the competition is divided into two stages: Semi-Finals and Finals. All competitors in these two rounds will perform before two nationally-recognized artists/master teachers. These two rounds are open to the public. The three finalists will be announced following the last semi-final audition of the day. The finals will begin shortly after the announcement.

At the discretion of the judges, no winner will be declared if the performance standards of the competition are not met. The decisions of the judges are final.

Audition Submissions

Recorded performance should be submitted as an audio file on a flash drive. The performance must include all movements of the selected concerto or the entire major orchestrated work that will be performed for the competition. The recorded performance must be accompanied. Please label the flash drive, with your name and repertoire selection (composer and title.) Competitors will be notified by email before December 1, 2019 as to their acceptance into the semi-final round. Flash drives will not be returned.

Fees and Applications

Application submission should include: completed application, audition performance on a flash drive (labeled), a non-refundable entry fee of \$75 made payable to the "Richardson Symphony Orchestra," and an accompanist fee of \$175 made payable to the "Richardson Symphony Orchestra." Must be postmarked by November 1, 2019.

Accompanists

The RSO provides professional accompanists for a fee of \$175. This fee includes a one-hour rehearsal the day before the semi-final round of the competition, plus accompaniment during the competition.

When selected into the semi-final round, each contestant will be required to mail an original piano score (no photocopies) for the accompanist to use during the rehearsal and performance.

If an accepted applicant withdraws from the competition for any reason after Friday, December 13, 2019, the accompanist's fee will be forfeited.

Competition Repertoire

Competitors will perform from memory all movements of a standard string concerto or a complete significant orchestrated work written for strings.

For the 2020 Competition, the following repertoire is excluded because these works will be performed as part of the Richardson Symphony Orchestra's subscription series:

Mendelssohn: Violin Concerto in E minor, Op.64

Lalo: Cello Concerto in D minor

No substitutions or changes are permitted once the application has been submitted. On the day of the competition, each competitor must provide an original published score for the judge. No photocopies of music will be accepted. Orchestrations for all competition music must be available in the U.S. Music provided to the accompanists will be returned to each competitor at the end of the day.

Questions?

For any questions related to this competition, please email Shirley Latham, Competition Co-Chair at: lathamshirley@att.net

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